



NOVEL QUATERNARY AMMONIUM COMPOUNDS

DESCRIPTION OF RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority to Japanese Patent Application
5 No. 2002-248586 filed on August 28, 2002, Japanese Patent Application
No. 2002-364725 filed on December 17, 2002, U.S. Provisional
Application Serial No. 60/407291 filed September 3, 2002, and U.S.
Provisional Application Serial No. 60/434416 filed December 19, 2002
under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 119 and 35 U.S.C. 120. The
10 contents of these applications are incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1) Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to novel benzothiazepine
compounds having a thioamide bond and a quaternary ammonium
substituent and to pharmaceutical compositions which contain them.
Moreover, the present invention relates to pharmaceutical compositions
for the treatment of cholestasis-caused hepatopathy and the like.

20 2) Description of the Related Art

Hyperlipidemia means a state where neutral fat, cholesterol and
the like in blood are at higher levels than the normal levels and has
been known to deserve a treatment since it is a main risk factor in
ischemic diseases. Moreover, hyperlipidemia is also known to cause
25 arteriosclerosis and in particular, to decrease blood cholesterol level is

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